

SITUATION REPORT NO. 13
INCIDENT NO. 2002-009
DATE: August 14, 2002 TIME: 4:30 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Severe Summer Storms, Flooding - Severe thunderstorms have produced heavy rain, gusty winds, hail and flooding.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: One injury resulted when a vehicle slid into the ditch along U.S. Interstate 94 just east of Medina. The individual was taken to the Jamestown Hospital for observation. Thus far, a total of four injuries, due to summer storm activity, have been reported to the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
3. DAMAGES: On August 11 in northeast Stutsman County, thunderstorms produced heavy rain, hail, and tornado activity. A tornado was reported four miles north of Cleveland. A second tornado, northeast of Medina, completely destroyed one farmstead including all buildings, vehicles, and machinery. Several outbuildings and vehicles were destroyed at a second farmstead. Five DC Transmission towers, owned by Square Butte Electric Cooperative, were downed and another was damaged. Four power poles and one ground box, owned by Northern Plains Electric Cooperative, were damaged. Power outages occurred throughout the northeast quadrant of Stutsman County. Dime to quarter size hail fell in an area eight miles north and west of Cleveland. On July 31 northeast of Medina, high winds destroyed one grain bin and moved another off its foundation coming to rest against a house. A stock trailer was destroyed, as were 25 hay bales. Several trees were downed and damaged in Medina; a garage roof was severely damaged by a falling tree. Winds also destroyed the door of the local grain elevator. South of Cleveland, up to one and one half inch hail destroyed crops in a two by ten-mile wide area. Hail also broke all windows in a farm home and barn. Winds destroyed trees, a grain bin, a private 63-foot television tower, and rain gutters on one home.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Flash Situation Report for Griggs County indicated scattered hail storms on August 1 moved from County Highway 3 and N.D. Highway 200 southeast to the city of Luverne in Steele County. Approximately 4,134 crop acres suffered a 75 percent loss. Eighteen farms were affected. The Steele County USDA report indicated high winds and a five mile wide patch of hail proceeded from Luverne east to two miles east of County Highway 8 on August 1. An approximate 75 percent crop loss affected 18,239 acres and 57 farms.

On August 14, the level of Devils Lake level measured 1447.15 feet and Stump Lake measured 1413.13 feet.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: The American Red Cross, Buffalo-Valley Chapter, is assisting the two families affected by the tornadoes in the Medina area.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Due to downed power lines, Stutsman County law enforcement officials closed roads and controlled traffic flow. Members of the Medina Fire Department searched for damages and possible injuries related to the tornadoes.
7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: Northern Plains Electric Cooperative restored power to northeast Stutsman County.
9. OTHER: Appropriate state, local and private entity emergency operations plans and procedures have been implemented.

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director